

Applic. No. 10/735,232  
Amdt. dated June 6, 2006  
Reply to Office action of April 26, 2006

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Claim Amendments

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions,  
and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A sheet-processing machine,  
comprising:

a conveyor for transporting processed sheets at a processing  
speed and for releasing the sheets for braking to a depositing  
speed;

a braking element for braking the released sheets to the  
depositing speed, said braking element being an endless  
suction belt perforated with suction openings and being  
revolvable during operation, said suction belt having a  
braking strand;

a drive for said braking element; and

a drive connection for connecting said drive to said braking  
element, said drive connection having an overrunning clutch;  
and

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a brake for retarding said braking element, said brake being configured as a suction box provided with a braking surface with suction openings formed therein, said braking strand sweeping over said braking surface.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): The machine according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said brake includes an actively acting brake assembly in addition to said braking surface for temporarily retarding said braking element.

Claim 4 (original): The machine according to claim 1, wherein said braking element is a rotational body.

Claim 5 (original): The machine according to claim 4, wherein said rotational body constitutes a suction ring.

Claim 6 (original): The machine according to claim 4, wherein said rotational body constitutes a suction roller.

Claim 7 (original): The machine according to claim 1, wherein said drive connection is severable.

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Claim 8 (original): The sheet-processing machine according to claim 1 configured as a rotary printing press.

Claim 9 (new): A sheet-processing machine, comprising:

a conveyor for transporting processed sheets at a processing speed and for releasing the sheets for braking to a depositing speed;

a braking element for braking the released sheets to the depositing speed;

a drive for said braking element; and

a drive connection for connecting said drive to said braking element, said drive connection having an overrunning clutch; and

a brake for retarding said braking element, said brake including an actively acting brake assembly for temporarily retarding said braking element.